

completing his mission, accepting calls as Sunday School President, ward clerk in Heber Second Ward, President of the Young Men's M.I.A., first councilor in the Elder's Quorum and serving as a Seventy and High Priest.

Will and Minnie Alice went to California in 1920 to vacation and for him to attend college for six weeks. After talking to the college administrator, he was encouraged to go all the way and complete the few courses required to receive his master's degree. Will was firm in saying he had a mind of his own and didn't accept all that was taught. In 1922, he and his wife decided to make California home, settling in Berkeley. They were then members of the San Francisco Stake where he held many church callings. He was Senior High Councilor for the life of that stake. He wrote the teacher's messages for the stake and taught the high priest's group in their monthly meetings. When plans for a new stake were afoot (Oakland/Berkeley Stake), Will was in charge of a class to instruct prospective new teachers. Will and Minnie always had a home garden in California. Each year they would bottle their years supply. Will enjoyed good health, despite having had diphtheria and surviving a bullet wound in the knee. Both took some time and patience for recovery. At the age of ninety-nine, he was still very spry except for back pain caused by a past injury and he walked around the neighborhood twice a day.

Will had known every President of the Church since Wilford Woodruff and had been told he had even seen President Taylor when he was four years old.

He had thirty-two years of teaching and school administration. He retired from his chosen profession in 1949 at the age of sixty-five. He became an active worker. Driving from his home in Berkeley three times a week, attending three sessions each of those days. In his later years he humbly enjoyed sealing sessions and participated in over four thousand (4000) sealings.

In April 1982, Will sold his home in Berkeley and moved to Fairfield, California to live with the Bob Kowallis family. After giving up his driving privileges at ninety-eight, he continued to attend the temple whenever transportation was available.

His desire to see an organization for genealogy research in the Hicken family was fulfilled in 1983 and can be credited for the existence of the family organization. For many years, a visit with

Uncle Will resulted in time spent updating him and his records up to date with the latest births, marriages and deaths. He often said, "Some one has got to keep records for this family." His interest was so great that he endowed the family organization in order to facilitate genealogy work and a history of all family members. In July 1983, at the age of ninety-nine he traveled to Utah from California to attend the first OHF reunion. In spite of his frail health he enjoyed visiting with relatives and friends in attendance. He spoke to us and blessed all those in his presence. In his speech he expressed his desire to see the family organization grow and flourish until every descendant of Thomas Hicken was located and recognized as a member of the Thomas Hicken Family Organization.

On 18 December 1983, Will broke his hip in a fall at the church while holding the door for others to exit, as was so typical of him even at ninety-nine years of age. He was in the hospital for three weeks and confined to bed when he celebrated his one hundredth birthday. On 29 February 1984, he quietly passed away, from this life, at the Kowallis home as a consequence of his hip injury and was buried next to his lifetime sweetheart, Minnie Alice, in Berkeley, California.

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#### JOSEPH CLAUDIUS HICKEN 1886

Addison Hicken and Sophia Elizabeth Moulton welcomed their son Joseph Claudius on 19 September 1886. He was called J. Claud or Claude all his life. He received all the blessings and ordinations in the various offices of the Priesthood. He was ordained a High Priest 26 December 1907. He had also the privilege to receive his Patriarchal blessing from his grandfather Thomas Hicken, 24 February 1906.

He graduated from the eighth grade and attended BY Academy. He had a great ability for architecture and design. He was not to pursue the architecture field as he had a great joy in working and delighted to see things grow and develop.

On 10 October 1906, he married Verna May Mahoney in the Salt Lake Temple. Her parents were Jeremiah Worthington and Sarah Giles Mahoney. Later Verna was to have Claude's sister Lottie Malinda Hicken become her step-mother as well as her sister-in-law.

Claude and Verna had a very loving relationship with their families and raised



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their own family in love. They had five children: Cyril Mahoney, Venice, Don LeRoy, Nelda and Yvonne. They took her sister Mabel to rear as a daughter along with their growing family. He totally delighted in the growth, education and development of his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He and Verna hovered closely over the entire family. They learned well the art of caring for budding chicks as they had nurtured thousands of baby chicks and built a thriving business. Claude butchered and later went into farming. He operated a wholesale meat business in Park City, Utah. He later developed a retail outlet for butter, eggs, and other farm produce. He was among the first to use a tractor on his farm. He had the first self propelled combine in the area. He built and operated the first custom feed mill, grinding, rolling and mixing the person's own grain. They often went unpaid for feed but Claude would not allow animals to starve. He and his son, Don, were the first to own and operate a common carrier truck line into Wasatch County. He was very successful in all these endeavors. Claude never knew the word or meaning of 'give up'. He kept his back straight and his head high as he rode out the losses of the depression.

A hard thing for Claude to accept was the loss of his right hand. This was difficult for an architect and one who loved playing the violin and mandolin. He accepted the accident, which occurred in a hay chopper, by designing a special glove with three hooks which allowed him to work at lifting sacks of feed. He taught himself to write with the left hand and nothing hindered him.

He was elected to the Heber City Council in 1920. He worked diligently to help the city improve. He served as a counselor to Bishop Fred Crook in the Heber 3rd Ward. He and Verna were very devout in serving the Lord. They taught their children to live the Gospel teachings and respect the chosen leaders of the Church. They instilled in them a determination to serve the Lord to the best of their ability in any and all callings they might receive. As a couple they worked diligently together to secretly deliver untold quantities of flour, eggs, poultry and other things to less fortunate people in the valley. They also supported many missionaries from the Wasatch Stake of Zion.

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#### CYRIL MAHONEY HICKEN 1907

Cyril Mahoney Hicken was welcomed to his sojourn on earth by his loving parents Joseph Claudius and Verna May Hicken. It was a wintry day 26 November 1907. He has never been too fond of having his very own birthday fall on or close to Thanksgiving each year. Nevertheless he has passed many birthdays. Looking back, there have been many great high and low experiences in his life. He loved his brother and sisters. He really enjoyed learning to work hard.

Cyril was blessed in the Heber Third Ward, 12 February 1908 by Bishop Frederick Crook. Fifty-two years later his son Jay Cyril Married Bishop Crook's granddaughter Margaret. Cyril and his wife, Mazie Watson Hicken, married 27 June 1930 and were blessed with eight children. Two were buried in infancy.

Later Cyril would have his eternal partner taken from him. He bore this burden at a young age and determined to keep the family together. With loving help from his brother, Don, and sister-in-law, Mima, he was able to do this.

He married Vay Huffaker Allison and they had one son. She passed away 7 January 1985. He is now married to his second cousin, Fay Murdock Hilton Hicken. He claims he was blessed with three of the greatest women on the earth. He has been a devout church worker. He served fifteen years in the Heber Third Ward Bishopric. He is honored in the knowledge that all six of his sons have served as a bishop in the Church. He delights with each new grandchild and rejoices that his entire family is very active in living the Gospel.

He grew up working. He drove bus for a short time but his heart was in farming. He developed his farm into a large dairy business. He has been a director for the Wasatch Irrigation Company. He is not afraid of any challenge in the work field and has expected his children to be the same. Neil, Elaine, Jay, Joe, Dale, Robert, and Claude have learned this lesson well.

#### NEIL WATSON HICKEN 1933

Neil Watson Hicken, son of Cyril Mahoney Hicken and Mazie Watson was born January 7, 1933 in Heber City Utah. Following his schooling in Wasatch County he attended Utah State University. He is married to Phyllis Leona Johnson. They reside in Garden Grove, California. Neil